

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, CSCE

SUBJECT: REPORTED STATEMENTS BY HONECKER ON CSCE

1. FOLLOWING FYI IS DEPARTMENT'S CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE FOR POSSIBLE QUESTIONS ON REPORTED HONECKER STATEMENTS ON CSCE CARRIED IN AUGUST 6 ISSUE OF NEUES DEUTSCHLAND. SUBJECT DID NOT COME UP AT NOON PRESS BRIEFING AUGUST 8.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE STATEMENT OF ERICH HONECKER, CHIEF OF THE EAST GERMAN COMMUNIST PARTY, TO THE EFFECT THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HUMANITARIAN PROVISIONS OF THE HELSINKI DECLARATION, SUCH AS FREER

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MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE ARE SUBORDINATE TO SECURITY CONSIDER-

ATIONS?

A: WE HAVE NOT SEEN THE TEXT OF WHAT HONECKER SAID, BUT WE WOULD EXPECT ALL SIGNATORIES TO IMPLEMENT ALL ASPECTS OF THE DECLARATION, INCLUDING A FREER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLES. THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE DOES NOT MAKE IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMANITARIAN PROVISIONS DEPENDENT ON ANY OTHER ASPECT OF THE CONFERENCE'S RESULTS.

Q: DO THE PROVISIONS FOR HUMANITARIAN COOPERATION DEPEND ON BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS:

A: THERE ARE SOME PROVISIONS IN THE FINAL ACT WHICH SUGGEST FURTHER BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS OR AGREEMENTS, BUT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE FINAL ACTS' PROVISIONS REQUIRE NO FURTHER STEPS AND OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT SIGNATURE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL CONSTITUTES A MORAL AND POLITICAL OBLIGATION TO IMPLEMENT THEM. THE PROVISIONS ON TRAVEL APPEAR TO US TO FALL INTO THIS CATEGORY.

Q: WHAT ABOUT HIS STATEMENT THAT PEACEFUL CHANGE OF BOUNDARIES DOES NOT APPLY TO EAST GERMANY?

A: THAT PROVISION APPLIES TO ALL PARTICIPATING STATES, INCLUDING, OF COURSE, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.

END TEXT. KISSINGER

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